

200-7-33-98

FIM 2470, 10 June 1952

SOURCE: ☐ ☐

Attached herewith is a Milan report re: Activities of Hungarian Emigrant Circles.

Copies have been retained for the Rome files.

8. Assembly of Catholic Action of Hungarians Abroad.— The third Assembly of the Hungarian Catholic Action was held in Rome from 15-17 May. The Chairman, Baron Gabor APOR, was complimented with Msgr. Josef ZACON, Apostolic Visitor (sic) of Hungarian Emigrant Catholics. At the first meeting of 15 May, the following were present: Miklos KALLAY, ex-Prime Minister; Ferenc AMBRO, ex-Envoy to Madrid; and the leading Catholic circles of the Hungarian colony of Rome. Foreign delegates included Elek HORVATH (Salzburg); Arpad MARCZELL (Munich); and Gyorgy ESZTERHARS (Zurich). At the first meeting these foreign delegates gave a report on the activity of their groups and the Assembly elected committees to deal with questions of Catholic Action, press matters and the resumption of ecclesiastical activity. Source attended only the first meeting since he had to leave Rome on the evening of 15 May. He reports the following elections by the Assembly: Ferenc AMBRO, Chairman of the Religious Committee; Prof Laszlo TOBH (former lecturer of the Hungarian Academy in Rome), Chairman of the Cultural Committee; Marquis Huber PALIAVINI, Secretary of Legation, Chairman of the Social Welfare Committee; Andre MIATKY, Secretary General of the Rome office. Baron Gabor APOR was reelected chairman for the next term. The former Minister to Budapest, Angelo ROTTI, attended the last meeting on 17 May and greeted the Assembly. Delegates generally called for the resumption of the work of Catholic Action. Since the departure of Msgr. Zsigmond MIHALOVICS to Mundelein, Chicago, Rome has been virtually without a Hungarian ecclesiastical leader. Delegates asked for MIHALOVICS return to Rome. The second problem was how to run the Catholic Action quarterly "Katholikus Szemle" Catholic Observer. Father Istvan BORBELY is the pro tem editor but, since he is in Chicago (Torino), he cannot follow the administrative work of the quarterly or personally lead the discussions concerning the Quarterly in Rome. The suggestion was made to transfer Father BORBELY to Rome, but the Jesuit General in Rome is rather reluctant to grant this transfer. There were also discussed (1) the establishment of "Catholic Observer" circles and (2) the editing of Catholic books, bibles, and songbooks, all of which are badly needed in emigrant Catholic parishes. The Vatican granted a subsidy ##### for the printing of 20,000 copies of the new Hungarian Bible.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006